

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 CPR-01 /087 W

-----222156Z 061764 /45

R 220709Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4204

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1357

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SU

SUBJECT: NIMEIRI REELECTED PRESIDENT FOR SECOND TERM

1. FOLWOWING TIME-CONSUMING AND UTTERLY PREDICTABLE
ELECTORAL PROCESSES INITIATED IN JANUARY, NIMEIRI OVER-
WHELMINGLY CHOSEN FOR SECOND FIVE-YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT
APRIL 20. RESULTS OF EARLY APRIL NATIONAL REFERENDUM SHOW
THAT HE GARNERED 5,620,026 VOTES AGAINST 48,377 WHO VOTED
NO, OR 99.1 PERCENT OF TOTAL VOTE. ARMY VOTED 100 PERCENT
FOR NIMEIRI, AS HE HAD INDICATED PUBLICLY HIS DESIRE FOR
COMPLETE BACKING BY ARMED FORCES. HE WILL BE INAUGURATED
MAY 24 (TO COINCIDE WITH EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY HIS SEIZURE
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POWER), THUS ENDING LONG QUOTE CAMPAIGN UNQUOTE PERIOD
WHICH BEGAN EARLY LAST FALL. ORIGINALLY INAUGURATION WAS
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD NEXT OCTOBER WHEN NIMEIRI'S FIRST
TERM SCHEDULED END.

2. COMMENT: ELECTION WAS MANAGED FROM BEGINNING TO END
WITH GOVERNMENT AND RULING SUDAN SOCIALIST UNION (SSU) IN

FULL CONTROL REGISTRATION PROCESS AND MEDIA COVERAGE OF CAMPAIGN. CONSIDERABLE TIME AND EFFORT EXPENDED ON ELECTION, AND AT FINAL STAGES MOST PROVINCIAL POLITICAL SUPERVISORS, EACH OF WHOM HOLDS OTHER TOP GOVERNMENT OR PARTY POST, WERE IN PROVINCES GETTING OUT THE VOTE. SINCE LATE LAST YEAR CAMPAIGN, NOMINATION BY SSU AND ELECTION HAVE BEEN DOMINANT DOMESTIC NEWS STORY.

3. IMPOSSIBLE TO ANALYZE VOTE AS MEASURE NIMEIRI'S POPULARITY. MOST CONVINCED OPPONENTS HIS RULE NO DOUBT DID NOT REGISTER AND THEN DID NOT VOTE. NONETHELESS, IT INTERESTING THAT FIVE OF FIFTEEN PROVINCES RETURNING LESS THAN 99 PERCENT YES VOTES FOR NIMEIRI WERE THOSE (NORTH AND SOUTH DARFUR AND NORTH AND SOUTH KORDOFAN AND WHITE NILE PROVINCES) IN WHICH ANTI-REGIME ANSAR STRENGTH TRADITIONALLY GREATEST. THIS, PLUS ACCELERATED TEMPO OF ELECTION PROCESS, SUGGEST NIMEIRI'S POPULAR BASE LESS BROAD AND FIRM THAN VOTING WOULD INDICATE.

4. IN ANY CASE, NIMEIRI HAS NOW BEEN ELECTED FOR SECOND TERM AND WILL INTERPRET VOTE AS FULL MANDATE TO PROCEED WITH HIS POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. IT PROBABLY IS SUBJECTIVELY IMPORTANT TO NIMEIRI TO HAVE THIS STAMP OF LEGITIMACY EVEN IF TO FOREIGN OBSERVERS FIG LEAF IS TRANSPARENT. SIGNIFICANCE FOR USG IS THAT GOVERNMENT UNDER NIMEIRI'S LEADERSHIP SHOULD BE ABLE CONCENTRATE NOW ON AMBITIOUS SIX-YEAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN, AND OTHER MAJOR DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES. NIMEIRI WILL ALSO INTERPRET VOTE CONFIDENTIAL

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AS APPROVAL OF HIS FOREIGN POLICIES INCLUDING WARMER RELATIONS WITH USG AS WELL AS DE FACTO ALLIANCE WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY BELIEVES CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND RECOMMENDS IT BE SENT AT TIME OF NIMEIRI'S INAUGURATION MAY 24.
BREWER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, PRESIDENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KHARTO01357
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIMEIRI REELECTED PRESIDENT FOR SECOND TERM
TAGS: PINT, SU, (NIMEIRI, JAFAR)
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Type: TE
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